

Message Text

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15

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSC-05 PA-02

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SAB-01 AID-05 SAM-01 IO-10 EUR-12

CCO-00 ACDA-10 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /089 W
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FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6946

USDEL ASWAN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

UNCLASSIFIED JERUSALEM 0682 SECTION 1 OF 2

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVID(KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: ISRAELI PRESS STATEMENTS FOLLOWING SUSPENSION OF TALKS.

NSCE FOR GENERAL SCOWCROFT AND NESSEN

SECTO 503

1. FOLLOWING ARE STATEMENTS BY DEFMIN PERES AND PM'S
SPOKESMAN DAN PATTIR AT THE PM'S OFFICE IN JERUSALEM
FOLLOWING THE SUSPENSION OF SECRETARY KISSINGER'S
MEDIATION EFFORTS MARCH 22, 1975:

2. DEFMIN PERES: QUOTE: GENTLEMEN, IN A SHORT WHILE
THE GOVERNMENT OF ISRAEL WILL ANNOUNCE ITS POSITION.
IT WILL NOT TAKE TOO LONG BEFORE YOU CAN HAVE IT. IT
WAS AN IMPORTANT WEEK. ISRAEL REMAINS A COUNTRY WITH HER
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FACE TURNED TOWARD A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT. UNQUOTE.

3. PM'S SPOKESMAN PATTIR: QUOTE: THE TALKS THAT WERE INTENDED TO INITIATE A MOVEMENT TOWARD A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT BETWEEN EGYPT AND ISRAEL HAVE BEEN SUSPENDED. FROM THE EARLY STAGES OF THE NEGOTIATIONS ISRAEL STATED ITS READINESS TO EVACUATE THE GIDI AND MILTA PASSES AND THE ABU RODEIS OILFIELDS IN RETURN FOR A RENUNCIATION OF THE STATE OF WAR BY EGYPT. EGYPT REFUSED TO RENOUNCE THE STATE OF WAR AND INSISTED THAT IT CONTINUE. NEVERTHELESS, ISRAEL OFFERED, IN RETURN FOR A LESS BINDING POLITICAL UNDERTAKING, TO WITHDRAW ITS FORCES FROM THE PRESENT DIS-ENGAGEMENT LINE, INCLUDING THE WESTERN PART OF THE STRATEGIC PASSES OF THE MILTA AND THE GIDI, AND TO TRANSFER THE OILFIELDS TO EGYPTIAN ADMINISTRATION. THIS OFFER WAS REJECTED AS WELL BY EGYPT. THIS REJECTION BY EGYPT LED TO THE SUSPENSION OF THE TALKS. ISRAEL REMAINS READY, AS ALWAYS, TO PERSEVERE IN ITS EFFORTS TOWARD A SETTLEMENT WITH EGYPT, AND WILL CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN THE CLOSEST CONTACT WITH THE US GOVERNMENT TOWARD THIS END. ISRAEL EXTENDS ITS DEEP GRATITUDE TO THE US GOVERNMENT, AND PARTICULARLY TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE, DR. HENRY KISSINGER, FOR HIS UNTIRING EFFORTS IN THE CAUSE OF PEACE. THANK YOU.

4. Q. IS THERE ANY REASON TO BELIEVE THAT WHEN THE TALKS RESUME THEY WILL HAVE ANY SUCCESS?

A. SO FAR I THINK YOU SHOULD STUDY THE STATEMENT. WHAT CAN I ADD? WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE SECRETARY OF STATE WILL BE LEAVING TOMORROW. TOMORROW AT NOONTIME THE PRIME MINISTER WILL HAVE A NEWS CONFERENCE IN JERUSALEM. THE CABINET WILL CONVENE TOMORROW AT 8:00 A.M. AND ON MONDAY THE PRIME MINISTER WILL DELIVER A STATEMENT TO THE KNESSET (PARLIAMENT). UNQUOTE

5. FOLLOWING ARE REMARKS BY PM'S SPOKESMAN PATTIR AT KING DAVID HOTEL AT 1:30 A.M., SUNDAY, MARCH 23, 1975:

6. (STATEMENT EXACTLY THE SAME AS DELIVERED EARLIER AT PM'S OFFICE).

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7. Q. QUOTE: WHAT WAS THE POLITICAL CONSIDERATION THAT ISRAEL WANTED IN EXCHANGE FOR THE SMALLER WITHDRAWAL?

A. SO FAR, READ THE STATEMENT AND DRAW YOUR OWN CONCLUSIONS.

8. I WANT TO ADD SOME TECHNICAL INFORMATION. WE UNDERSTAND THE SECRETARY OF STATE WILL BE LEAVING ISRAEL

BEFORE NOON AND THE PRIME MINISTER WILL SEE HIM OFF.
THE PRIME MINISTER WILL BE HOLDING AN ON-THE-RECORD
NEWS CONFERENCE TOMORROW HERE IN JERUSALEM AT BEIT AGRON.
AN EXACT TIME WILL BE ANNOUNCED LATER. THE PRIME MINISTER
WILL ADDRESS THE PARLIAMENT ON MONDAY AND WILL DELIVER A
POLITICAL STATEMENT.

9. Q. CAN YOU SAY AT WHAT STAGE THE OFFER OF THE
WESTERN HALF OF THE PASSES AND THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE
OILFIELDS WAS MADE?

A. DURING THE ADVANCED STAGE OF THE NEGOTIATIONS.

10. Q. IN THE LAST WEEK, FOR INSTANCE?

A. I CAN NOT REALLY SPECIFY THE TIME.

11. Q. SO FAR AS THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE OILFIELDS,
WAS THE IDEA THAT ISRAEL WOULD STILL USE THE OIL OUTPUT
OF ABU RODEIS? AND WOULD ISRAELIS KEEP A PRESENCE THERE?

A. I DO NOT WANT TO GO INTO DETAILS, I JUST WANT TO
STATE OR EVEN TO RESTATE, WHAT HAS BEEN SAID HERE: THAT
THERE WAS AN ISRAELI READINESS TO TRANSFER IT TO THE UN CONTROL.

12. Q. UN CONTROL?

A. THE OILFIELDS, THEY ARE EGYPTIAN ADMINISTRATION. I REPEAT,
AS FAR AS THE TECHNICAL NATURE THIS IS A MATTER THAT COULD
HAVE BEEN DISCUSSED BETWEEN THE ISRAELIS AND THE EGYPTIANS.

13. Q. DAN, WHAT IS THE NEXT STEP AS FAR AS PEACE NEGOTIATIONS GO?

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A. WE ARE READY TO RESUME THE TALKS AS WE STATED HERE.

14. Q. DO YOU THINK THAT THERE IS ANY HOPE FOR RESUMING
THE PRESENT STE-BY-STEP APPROACH?

A. WE HOPE.

15. Q. HAVE YOU HAD ANY INTIMATION THAT KISSINGER MIGHT
RETURN AGAIN?

A. WE DO NOT KNOW.

15. Q. CAN YOU GIVE US ANY INDICATION OF WHAT KIND OF
LESSER NON-BELLIGERENCY YOU WERE ASKING FOR FROM EGYPT

AND EGYPT TURNED DOWN? BECAUSE WITHOUT THAT IT DOES
NOT SOUND VERY CLEAR. WHAT DID YOU WANT FROM EGYPT IN
EXCHANGE FOR THE SMALLER WITHDRAWAL?

A. THIS WILL BE ELABORATED TOMORROW.

17. Q. WHAT REASON DO YOU HAVE TO SAY THAT THE TALKS
HAVE BEEN SUSPENDED RATHER THAN SOMETHING MORE POSITIVE
AND DEFINITE LIKE ENDED? DO YOU HAVE A FIRM COMMITMENT
THAT THEY WILL BE RESUMED?

A. WE EXPRESS THE HOPE, AS IT IS STATED IN THE ANNOUNCEMENT
ABOUT RESUMPTION OF THE TALKS, ON THE BASIS (SIC) THAT IT IS
POSSIBLE TO COUNDUCT IT IN (SIC) A MUTUAL, RECIPROCAL MANNER.

18. Q. WE HEARD ON THE RADIO THAT ISRAEL WAS PREPARED
TO LET THE UNITED NATIONS TAKE OVER THE SINAI PASSES AND
THAT THE EGYPTIANS FELT THAT WASN'T ENOUGH. THEY WANTED
TERRITORY BEYOND THE SINAI PASSES...

A. I AM NOT GOING INTO DETAILS.

19. Q. BUT THE RADIO HAS SAID THIS.

A. THE RADIO? WHICH RADIO?

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20. Q. ISRAEL'S RADIO.

A. I HAVE NOT HEARD IT AND I THINK, IF I WERE YOU, I

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